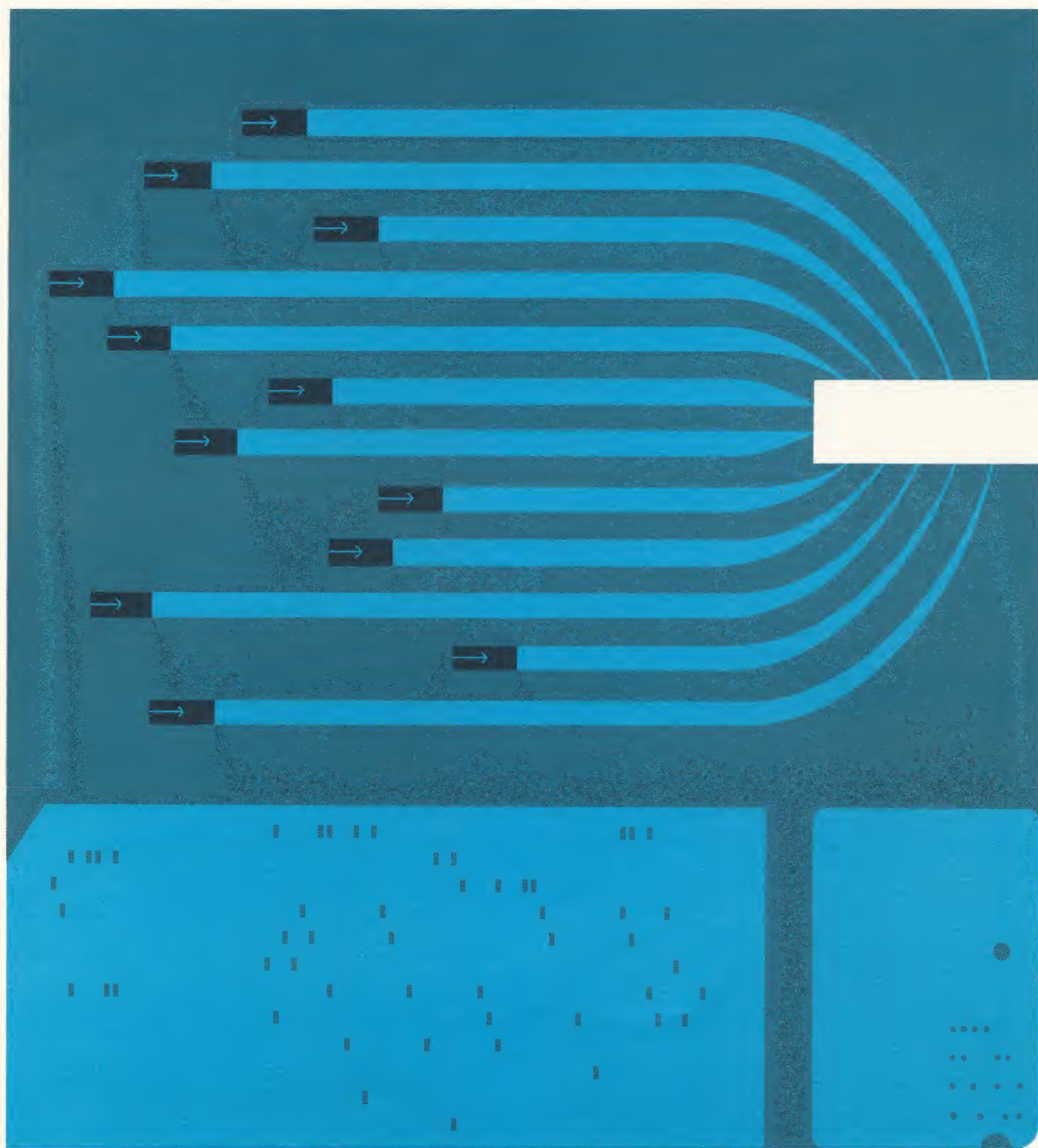
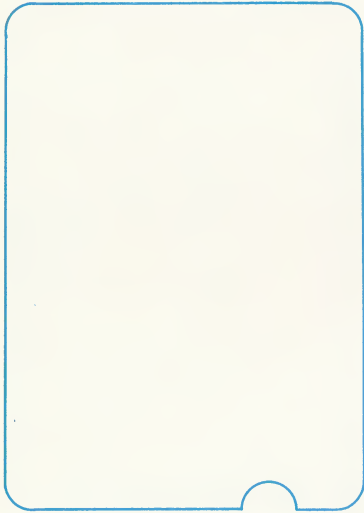


**RCA EDGE...gathers data economically where it
originates...as it originates**



RCA EDGE—Electronic Data Gathering Equipment an important new tool for management economical/flexible/accurate/from input to output



RCA EDGE solves one of the major problems facing management today—the need to speed data through an organization so that meaningful and timely information can be at the fingertips of people who need to know.

How does EDGE do this? EDGE gathers data from widely separated locations on various types of transactions and records that data for automatic

processing in a computer. The entire process—from the time data is entered in the EDGE input station until reports are generated by the data processor—is almost entirely automatic. Thus, EDGE eliminates time consuming and error-prone paper work and voice communication, and expensive and redundant key punching and verifying operations at the data processing center.

Where is EDGE useful? Virtually anywhere there is a problem of gathering data quickly and reliably . . . for recording shop activity, inventory movement, payroll data, shipping and receiving, purchasing or point of sale recording. And EDGE can be applied to data gathering problems of varying size, from multi-plant manufacturing operations to hospitals, where there is no need to gather information beyond four walls.

If you have a problem of clogged communications pipelines, or if you need to gather data with greater speed and accuracy—and more important—at low cost, you have a problem that can be answered by EDGE.

- Building block design permits system to be tailored to customer needs at time of delivery . . . can be expanded or modified easily to meet future needs.
- Connections are through single-pair telephone lines for extremely low installation and maintenance costs . . . stations can be easily moved to meet changes in work areas.
- Provides for either off-line or on-line operations . . . off-line systems can be converted to on-line operation in the field.
- Double accuracy checks safeguard all data transmission . . . automatic retransmission of incorrect messages.
- Input stations are easy to operate, require only a few minutes training for personnel.
- Rugged construction and solid-state circuitry are combined to provide reliability under worst operating conditions.

EDGE Input Stations

The flexible, multi-purpose EDGE input stations provide automatic entry of punched tokens or badges, punched cards, variable data or any combinations of these in a single message. In addition, each EDGE station sends a station identification code and transaction code with all transmission to identify each message for processing. In line visual display is provided for easy verification of all variable data before transmitting.

To meet the varying requirements of business and industry, four EDGE input devices are available—providing six standard input configurations. These are:

EDGE Standard Input Station—

reads punched cards and tokens, plus providing panel entry of up to 10 decimal digits of variable data.

EDGE Alphanumeric Input Station—

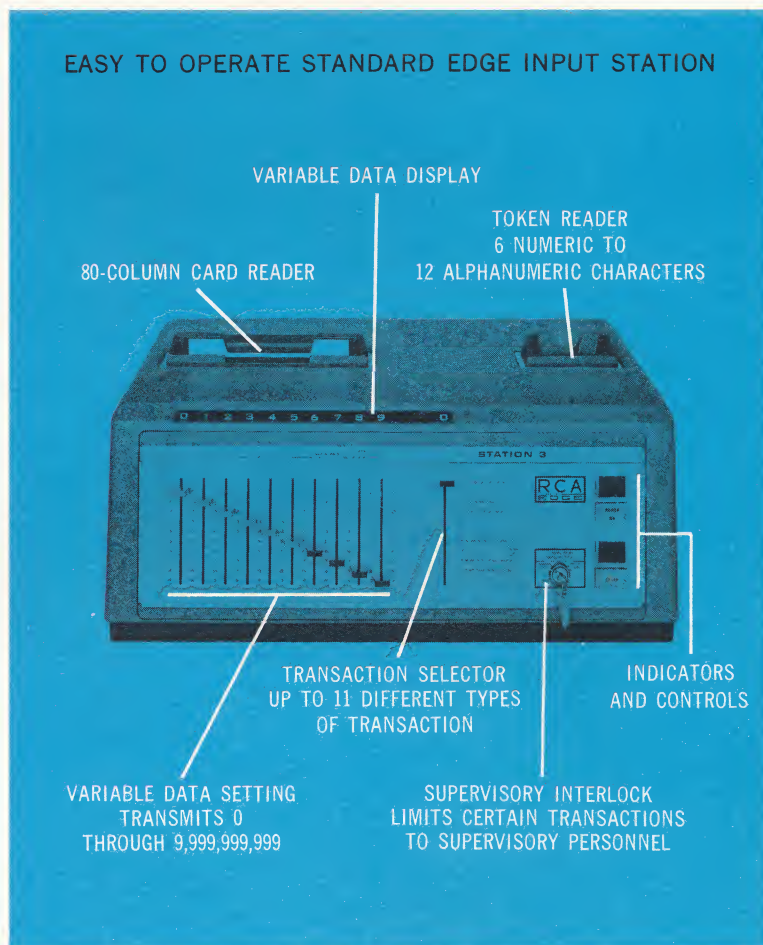
provides for entry of up to 25 alphanumeric characters of variable data.

EDGE Auxiliary 80-column Card Reader—

provides facility for sending data from one additional 80-column card in conjunction with a standard or alphanumeric EDGE Input Station.

EDGE Auxiliary 22-column Card Reader—

provides ability to transmit 22-columns of standard 80-column card in conjunction with standard or alphanumeric EDGE Input Station.



SIX EDGE INPUT CONFIGURATIONS

Configuration	1	2	3	4	5	6
Standard Input Station	●		●	●		
Alphanumeric Input Station		●			●	●
Card Reader, 80-column			●		●	
Card Reader, 22-column				●		●
Maximum Message Length (in characters)	111	32	192	134	113	55



EDGE Line Concentrator

The EDGE Line Concentrator provides a switching center for up to 25 EDGE input stations. On request from an Input Station, the EDGE Line Concentrator searches for an idle trunk and connects the input station to a Central Recorder. This switching ability means that the loss of any single trunk line does not halt service to inputs. The Line Concentrator connects with up to four Central Recorder Terminals—thus balancing loads and further reducing line requirements.



EDGE Central Recorder

The EDGE Central Recorder receives and records messages and encodes them in a form compatible with the computer being used. In off-line systems, recording is on 7-level punched paper tape. In on-line systems, recording is replaced with direct feed to a computer with time sharing abilities, such as an RCA 301, 501 or 601. Over an eight-hour period, one Central Recorder can produce 12 reels of punched paper tape, the equivalent of 20,000 punched cards.

Input Data

Input data is recorded automatically by inserting a punched card or token into the EDGE input station.

EDGE Input Station

Variable data is entered on the input station panel and the entire message is transmitted by simply touching the transmit button.

EDGE Line Concentrator

The Line Concentrator—much like a telephone switchboard—connects up to 25 EDGE input stations with up to four EDGE Central Recorder Terminals.

EDGE Central Recorder

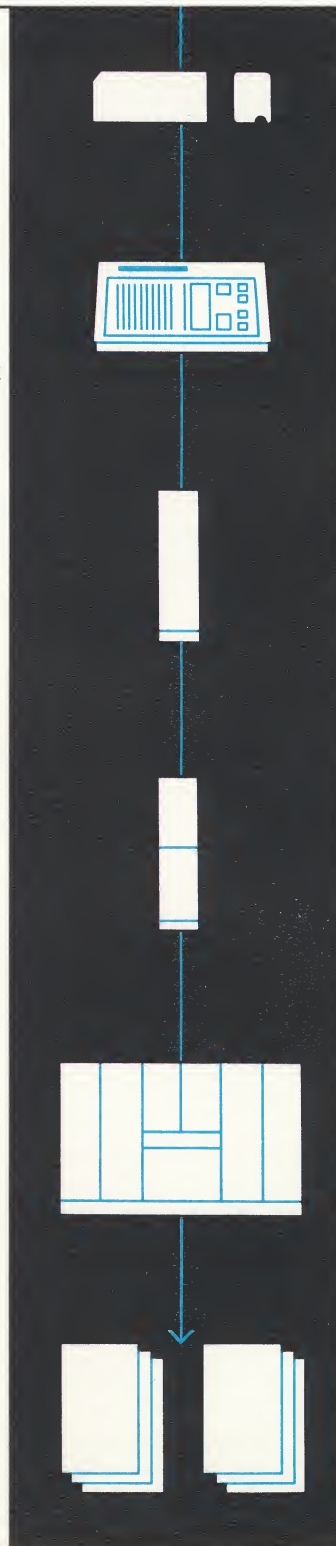
Takes the output from EDGE Line Concentrators and provides a paper tape record of all messages for off-line operation, or enters data directly into a computer for on-line operation.

Data Processing Center

Data from the EDGE system is processed according to the computer program and completed reports are prepared for distribution.

Completed Reports

Reports prepared by the processor speed valuable information to management in time for meaningful decisions.



EDGE Specifications

GENERAL

Transmission Rate—27.7 characters per second, overall system rate limited only by number of Central Recorders available.

Data Format—6-bit alphanumeric characters plus parity bit.

Circuitry—solid-state throughout.

Transmission media—single-pair voicegrade telephone lines.

INPUT STATIONS

Card Reader for standard 80-column cards, Token Reader for 6 numeric to 12 alphanumeric characters, and variable levers for entry of other numeric information. Auxiliary Card Readers may be used with standard or alphanumeric EDGE Input Station.

Physical Characteristics

Standard Input Station—11½" H x 23" W x 17" D. Weight 63 lbs.

Alphanumeric Input Station—10" H x 30" W x 16" D. Weight 50 lbs.

Auxiliary Card Readers—8" H x 13" W x 18" D. Weight 29 lbs.

Operating Requirements

Power: 3 amps at 115 volts $\pm 10\%$, 60 cycles.

Cooling: Satisfactory operation in temperature range of 30°F to 110°F with relative humidity from 0 to 80%.

Interconnection: EDGE Input Stations may be up to approximately 5 miles from Line Concentrator.

LINE CONCENTRATOR

Available in either two- or four-trunk models.

Physical Characteristics

Size: 79" H x 27¼" W x 23¼" D. Weight 250 lbs.

Operating Requirements

Power: 4 amps at 115 volts $\pm 10\%$, 60 cycles.

Cooling: Satisfactory operation from 0°F to 110°F with relative humidity from 0 to 80%.

Interconnection: Up to 10 miles from the Central Recorder. Special connection available to extend this distance as required.

CENTRAL RECORDER

Available with 2 or 4 receiver-recorder units for connection to 2 or 4 trunk Line Concentrators. Available with time emitter and scanner.

Operating Speed: Off-Line—punches 7-level paper tape at 27.7 characters per second.

Physical Characteristics

Size: 79" H x 27¼" W x 23¼" D. Weight 350 lbs.

Operating Requirements

Power: 10 amps at 115 volts $\pm 10\%$, 60 cycle.

Cooling: Satisfactory operation at temperatures from 55°F to 100°F with relative humidity from 0 to 80%, dust free atmosphere. Heat dissipation 2400 BTU/hr.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

blends data gathering and communication functions to spread the power of electronic data processing systems throughout decentralized operations.

CUSTOM PROJECTS

provides special equipment or undertakes special studies to meet unique customer requirements.

DāSPAN

for fast, flexible, low-cost data communications that economically integrate decentralized operations.

MAGNETIC TAPE TERMINALS

for rapid interchange of data over a variety of communications media through magnetic tape input and output.

AUTODATA

for automatic message switching through large data communications networks using dissimilar media and dissimilar equipment.

SCHARQ-1

for automatic error correction of a wire or radio duplex data communication path.

MUX-ARQ-2

for automatic error correction of two or four wire or radio duplex data channels.



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